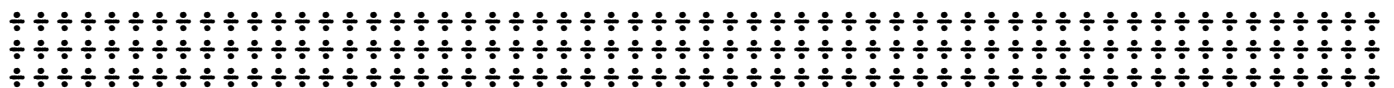


T H E

FORT VERMILION AND AREA
AGRICULTURAL
SOCIETY

" F O R T R E S S "

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT FORT VERMILION, ALBERTA, BY MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY TO PROVIDE AN AVENUE FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF NEWS OF THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS OF THE SOCIETY AND TO FOSTER A CONTINUAL INTEREST IN ALL OF THE VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE WORK AND RECREATION IN WHICH THE MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION MAY BE ENGAGED.



AGRICULTURAL SUGGESTIONS FROM YOUR EXPERIMENTAL STATION

Although under normal weather conditions of this area cabbage, cauliflower and tomatoes will make fairly good development if the seed is sown as early as possible in the open ground, there is, however, always the risk of loss from spring frost and far better results are likely to be obtained if the plants are started in a hot-bed.

The construction and operation of a hot-bed is not quite as complicated as may be imagined and if good seed is used and a few simple rules carefully followed success is almost assured. One having an area of approximately sixteen square feet is usually sufficient for the average garden and this can be nicely covered with two ordinary storm window sash. Two types have been fairly well tested, one above ground and one below; as the latter is more permanent and usually gives the most satisfactory service, the construction of this type is given and is as follows:

A two-inch plank frame, so arranged that the front will be ten inches deep and the back fifteen inches to provide slope for the sash in order that the rain will run off readily and also allow more sunshine to reach the front part of the hot-bed, is made to such dimensions as will allow the sash to lay on the top of the frame and, to prevent the sash from slipping off, a three-inch batten with one inch projecting above the top edge is nailed to the outside of the frame.

As high winds are disastrous to young plants, the hot-bed should be located, if possible, in a sheltered position having a Southern exposure; it should also be placed on high, well-drained land in order that water will not seep into the pit. The pit should be about eighteen inches deep and two or three inches shorter and narrower than the frame, digging of which is most conveniently done in the summer or autumn, but it is not a difficult job in the early spring if a fire is started where the pit is desired and the earth removed as it thaws out. A little care when finishing the pit will result in good strong walls that will last for several seasons.

Fresh manure from grain-fed horses is considered the most suitable for making hot-beds and a start to accumulate this material in a neat compact pile should be made about a week before the hot-bed is required. The manure will usually commence to heat in about two days and when this occurs it should be turned over each day in order to create a uniform condition and prevent overheating and burning. Filling the pit is best done by spreading uniform layers over the entire area and trampling thoroughly. It is important that no hollow, spongy spaces be left, as these will not only prevent proper heating of the bed but also will cause uneven settling.

After the pit has been filled to within two inches of the top, the frame should be put in place and banked about halfway up with some of the soil taken from the pit. At least four inches of good garden soil containing a liberal proportion of well-rotted manure should then be put on top of the heating manure, nicely firmed and carefully levelled and the sash put in place. A rapid rise of temperature will usually follow and for this reason it is recommended that no seed be sown for a few hours or until this excessive heating has passed off. A temperature ranging between eighty and ninety degrees Fahrenheit is considered ideal.

Seeding of the hot-bed in this area should be done during the last week of April and there are two methods of sowing the seed--broadcast and in drills. While broadcast is fairly satisfactory, it is rather difficult to cover the seed evenly and there is also great danger of

(danger of) washing all the seed into one place when watering, resulting in a thick mass of weak plants which are extremely difficult to handle. A better method and one that has proved very satisfactory is to sow the seed one inch or more apart in shallow drills running lengthwise of the bed. A one-inch board, six inches wide and slightly shorter than the inside of the frame, is very handy for making the drills, as a slight pressure of the edge into the soil will readily form a drill about one-quarter of an inch deep and the width of the board acts as a marker for the next drill. By this method the young plants will have sufficient room for good development until it is time to transplant them either to a cold frame or the open garden. When covering seeds such as cabbage, cauliflower, tomato or peppers, one-eighth inch of soil is quite sufficient, and for flower seeds a good rule to follow is: Cover with about the same depth of soil as is the thickness of the seed.

An article on care of the plants and transplanting will follow in the April issue of the FORTRESS.

In reply to a request, we present the following varieties of stable garden vegetables suitable for this area, selected on a basis of their recent performance--

Wax beans--Princess of Artois, Stringless Green Pod, and Wardwell's Kidney. Broad Beans--Taylor's Windsor and Green Windsor. Beets--Crosby's Egyptian and Detroit Dark Red. Carrots--Chantenay, Amsterdam Forcing and Oxheart. Corn--Banting, Dorriny and Improved Squaw. Cabbage--early Golden Acre, mid-season Copenhagen Market, late Danish Roundhead. Cauliflower--Snowball, Early Paris Market and Dwarf Erfurt. Cucumbers--Arlington White Spine, Deloron and Improved Long Green. Onions--Large Red Wethersfield, Yellow Globe Danvers and for pickling White Barletta. Peas--Little Marvel, Thomas Laxton and Quite Content. Potatoes--Early Hebron, Carman's No 1, Gold Coin, King Edward, Irish Cobbler and Katahdin. Pumpkin--King of Mammoths, Connecticut Field and Small Sugar. Swiss Chard--Giant Lucullus. Spinach--New Long Standing Bloomsdale and King of Denmark. Squash--Cocozelle, Giant Summer Crookneck and Long White Bush Marrow. Tomatoes--Alacrity, Bonny Best, Earliana and Herald, the novelty variety, Farthest North, does well and produces a fair quantity of small ripe fruits in the open garden without too much attention.

Our breeding pens of White Wyandottes have now been made up and setting eggs are available at 50 cents per setting of fifteen.

A. LAWRENCE, Superintendent
Dominion Govt. Experimental Farm.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monthly meeting was held at Sibbald's on February 13, Mr. Newman presiding--

In accepting Mrs. Bresee's resignation, the Board expressed their appreciation of her services and regret of her illness. Mr. Eddie Gray was elected to the Directorate to fill this vacancy. An Indian prize list, presented for the approval of the Board by the Prize List Committee, was returned to the Committee with the suggestions that they enlarge livestock classes and simplify horticultural lists. A motion that the Indian girls of 16 and under be permitted to exhibit only in adult classes in competing for Indian prizes, but that they be permitted to compete in Children's Classes (open) in Domestic Science and Horticulture was approved by the Board.

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Did you know?

The Alberta Government recognizes June 26, 1974 as the incorporation date for the current version of the AG. Society - making 2024 a 50th year anniversary! In reality, the experimental farm actively promoted agriculture since 1907 and there has been organized community members promoting and celebrating Agriculture since 1914 with the creation of the Board of Trade. On June 25, 1938 the Fort Vermilion Agricultural Society was officially formed. Supported by the board of trade via equipment and resources, the fledgling society took over operations of the fall fair and quickly became a staple of the community. In 1942 the organization went dormant as WWII raged on. It did not revive after the close of the war - officially dissolving and turning all assets back to the Board of Trade in 1951. In 1974 the the society was formed again and has been in operation since. This publication is one manner in which we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the AG Society.

Staying true to the original 1940 publication intention (as stated on the cover) - this 2024 version desires to not only keep the members of the AG Society informed but the community on the larger whole. Information about community events will be posted here - along with historical anecdotes, advertisements, classifieds and of course news from the AG Society. This is to be a simple publication - staying true to the handmade styles of the original and contrasting the glitzy paper and images of other such publications.

Advertising in "The Fortress"

In 1940 the advertising rates were as follows:

- Full Page ad ----- \$5
- Half Page Ad -----\$2.50
- Classified Ad-----\$0.25

As much as we would like to stay true to these rates of advertising - the small amounts hardly make the paperwork worth it! So instead we are offering rates at the equivalent buying power. In 1940 \$5 had ~the same buying power as \$100 does today! Keeping this model in mind - our advertising costs are as follows.

- Full Page Ad -----\$100
- Half Page Ad -----\$50
- Classified Ad (<30 words) -----\$5

350 copies are printed monthly - 300copies are distributed through the mail boxes and 50 others distributed to stores and local coffee spots. Payment can be made by cheque (Fort Vermilion Agricultural Society) Cash, or E-transfer (FVHC88@gmail.com) All Ads are attractively hand drawn and eye catching - as you will see on the following pages!

+++++

Weather from 100 years ago!

In 1908 The Experimental Farm started keeping detail records of the precipitation / sunshine and temperature. Here are some of the results from March 1924.

Record of Sunshine Total hours 166.3 Average / day 5.3

Temperature Highest 43.5°F (+6.3°C) Lowest -34.0°F (-36.6°C)

Precipitation End of March there was 16.5" of snow. It only snowed 2.5" in March

MACKENZIE COUNTY

AGRICULTURAL FAIR AND TRADE SHOW

AUGUST 9 + 10

Though it seems a long way off soon it will be here!
Start planning now!

BENCK SHOW

Look for the fair book online and in hardcopy Mid March!
Master adult and Youth exhibitor + Prize money for each category!
Start planting seeds, painting, photographing and creating now!

Ultimate Farmers Challenge, Cowboy Challenge, Corn Maze, Parade, Pie Eating Contest

The "Joe Show" will be back with new "A Builders Adventure" ventriloquist show!

Much to see, do, eat, and enjoy!



***The Recreation Board has dance classes every second Thursday. Mar 14 + 28 for this month! Learn Swing, Two Step, Line Dances and more! Talk to Steven 780-84I-250I

***The Library hosts Craft Club every Tuesday @6pm - 8pm. Bring your own craft and socialize with fellow crafters. 18+

*** Free Pubic skating is every Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri 4-4:50 and Sun 2-2:50!

*** Winter Carnival Weekend is March 22, 23,+ 24! The Dog sled races have been cancelled (due to conditions) but \$10,000 bingo and other events are happening that weekend! Look for posters in town!

*** March 15-16 is the Fort Open Bonspiel! \$220 registration fee due March 11 call Carla to enter a team - 780 926 0311

*** March 8th is Trivia night at the Bar. Hosted by the Heritage Centre - test your Fort history knowledge and have a great time!

*** Rocky Lane Ag Society is hosting Carlo Toews for a horsemanship clinic March 8+9 and Farrier workshop March 11. Call Petra to Register 780-285-0012

*** Faith Gospel Fellowship Church is hosting a free community Easter Dinner on March 30. Food is served at 6pm - all are welcome

The Hudson's Bay Company maintained detailed records of operations, employees, and happenings at each trading post they operated. The Fort Vermilion Heritage Centre has a copy of those records and offer a peek into what was happening in Fort Vermilion HBC post over 100 years ago!

***** PLEASE NOTE ***** These notations have been digitized from the hand written documents. The spelling of words and names may not be correct and outdated terms have not been censored or changed.

March, 1893: hauling hay, tending traps

Arrivals: Ambroise and party left (1st); McLeod's wife for flour; Wapinew and Rabbit Soup (9th); Pierrot's son & Cowshot with moose (12-13th); Atick from Chischiskisis' camp (12-13th); Slavis in from Paddle R. (26th); Tallcree & Julien with some fur (27th); 2 Chipewyans from Buffalo Lake (28th);
Tasks/events: Bourassa and Wapinew attempt unsuccessfully to hunt 4 wolves that have killed 8 Indian horses (2-4th); "three of the trader's Indians came in but did not come to the fort" (9th); Clarke and Wm Mackenzie returned from LSL with supplies and a good train of dogs (15th); hauling barley to Roman Catholic Mission threshing floor (20th);

March, 1898:

Arrivals: Horseman, 4 Slavis with Wapinew (17-18th); Beauchamp and 2 other Indians (20th); 2 Hay R. Indians with Wapinew (24th);
Tripping: Clarke to Nawadday's camp (9-11th); Clarke out to Horseman's camp, retrieved 1 moose (18-27th); Clarke & Charloo with 2 teams of dogs retrieved meat from Horseman's (25-28th); Jack went out to make a track to 2 moose Moniyass gave (28th);
Tasks/Events: breaking road to lower island & fixing track (1st); squaring timber on lower island (2-5th); Mr. Clarke took Horseman's mare & colt to Willie Smith to keep & brought the grey horse to the fort (4th); death of Mrs. E. J. Lawrence (6th); W. Lambert made coffin (7,8); all hands attended Mrs. Lawrence's funeral; death of Jack Attilaw's child (8th); ret of William Flett & Alexan Mercredi from Ft. Chip with packet, Thomas Kerr came from Red River (11th); Mr. Milligan started for Red River to cut steamer wood & house logs (25th); Mr. Bell & party started this afternoon hauling supplies with horse & sled to Hay R. on their way to the Yukon goldfields (31st); Clarke sick with sore throat (29-31st);

ADULT LEARNING

MARCH events

4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28

Learners Study Group

Every Monday and Tuesday at 5:00pm!

5, 12, 19

Basic Computers

Come learn about basic operations and functions of a computer and it's programs | 3:00pm

4601 46ave
Beside County
office

19

Community Kitchen Prep 4:00pm

20

Community Kitchen 4:00pm

Call for
more info
780 581 3510

26

Family Game Night

Bring the whole crew for fun board games and snacks!

Some games provided or bring your favorite!

Join the
email/text
update list!

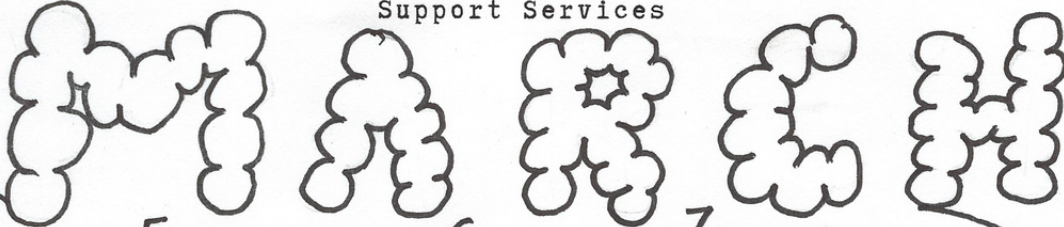
780 581 3510

bfscal@northwestalbertabrighterfutures.com

Fort Vermillion

FAMILY + COMMUNITY

Support Services



Calender

4
Girls Group
2:45 - 4:30

5
Time for Tots IO-
II:30
Boys Group
2:45 - 4:30

6
Girls Group
2:45 - 4:30

7
Time for Tots IO-
II:30
Boys Group
2:45 - 4:30
Youth group 5-6:30

11
Girls Group
2:45 - 4:30

12
Time for Tots IO-
II:30
Boys Group
2:45 - 4:30

13
Girls Group
2:45 - 4:30

14
Time for Tots IO-
II:30
Boys Group
2:45 - 4:30
Youth group 5-6:30

15
Deadllne to register for Easter Hunt!

18
Girls Group
2:45 - 4:30

19
Time for Tots IO-
II:30
Boys Group
2:45 - 4:30

20
Girls Group
2:45 - 4:30

21
Time for Tots IO-
II:30
Boys Group
2:45 - 4:30
Youth group 5-6:30

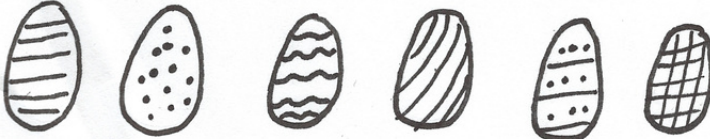
Volunteers wanted to help with events! Give us a call!

25
Girls Group
2:45 - 4:30

26
Time for Tots IO-
II:30
Boys Group
2:45 - 4:30

27
Girls Group
2:45 - 4:30

28
Time for Tots IO-
II:30
Boys Group
2:45 - 4:30
Youth group 5-6:30



Register now for the Easter Hunt! 20 Spots available - all free thanks to our generous friends at The Village! Call for more details!

TAX SEASON

We offer help during the tax season! Give us a call to book an appointment!

LIME BALU

EST 1897

780 927 3500

SOOP
of the day

SPECIAL
of the day

Cup- 3.49 Bowl - 5.99

Biscuit or dinner Roll - 0.50

Cheese roll or Naan Bread - 1.00

MON

White Chicken Chili

Turkey lettuce Sandwich

With fries + Gravy or Soup ----10.99

TUE

Cheesy Broccoli

Grilled Turkey and Swiss Sandwich

With fries + Gravy or Soup ----10.99

\\\\\\\\\\\\ Taco Tuesday - 3 Tacos, Chicken or Beef 11.99 \\\\\\\\\\\生

WED

Beef Barley

Clubhouse Sandwich

With fries + Gravy or Soup ----10.99

/\\\\\\\\\\\\ Wing Wednesday - any amount 1.25 each /\\\\\\\\\\\\

THU

Hamburger Chili

Chili with Garlic Grilled Cheese -----10.99

Cheesy Tater tots -----11.99

FRI

Clam Chowder

Tuna and Lettuce Sandwich

With fries + Gravy or Soup -----10.99

/\\\\\\\\\\\\ Fish Friday - Fish and Chips with drink of Choice (not lattes) \\\\\\\\\\\生

SAT

Butter Chicken Soup

Egg Salad Sandwich

With fries + Gravy or Soup -----10.99

River Rd. Fort Vermilion

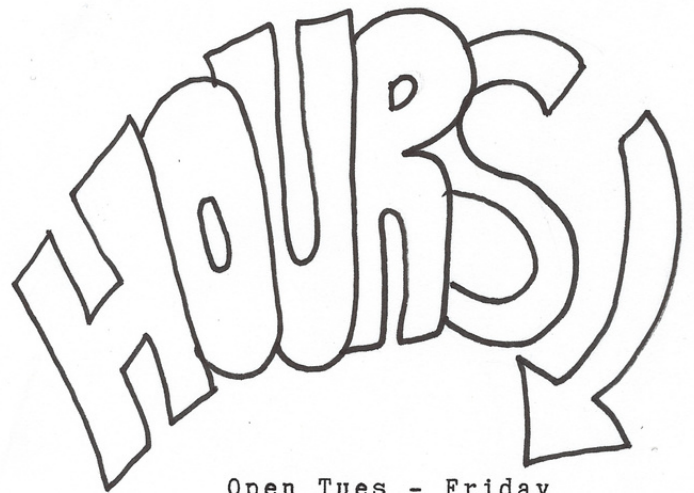


+ Second Hand

Your local thrift option supporting the building of a seniors lodge in Fort Vermilion!



Accepted Wednesday's and Friday's!
Ring bell around back!



Open Tues - Friday
11-6pm



Every Friday. All items that you can fit in a bag
(some items not applicable) for only \$5
Books now included.

780 927 4800

Want to support us? Shop in the store, or come volunteer in the store!
Inquire at the front for more info!

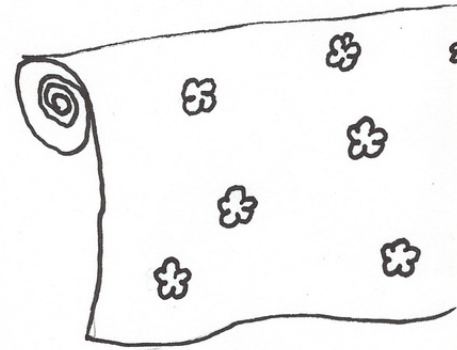
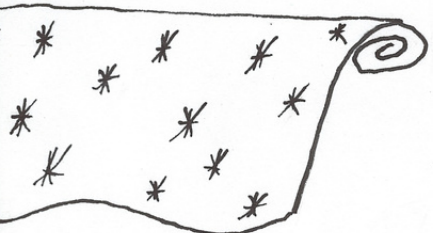
riverroadtradingpost1@gmail.com

FABRIC

OPEN 12 - 6 TUES, WED, SAT
OPEN 9-6 MON, THU, FRI

780 927 4650

CLEARANCE SALE



▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼ Winter fabrics and *NEW* Spring fabrics! ▲▼▲▼▲▼▲▼

NEW in store
BEESWAX
Perfect for home remedies, salves and candles.

Beeswax candles are re-stocked with some new selection!

BULK CITY FOODS

and
The GATHERING Place

